

DD/A Registry

19-3537

ODP 1188-77
17 JUN 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant for Information, DDA

FROM : Clifford D. May, Jr.
Director of Data Processing

SUBJECT : Presidential Review of the Classification System

REFERENCE : Your Memo, dtd 9 June 1977, Same Subject

1. The reference requested comments and suggestions on the present national security classification system or on any of the specific points outlined for study in PRM/NSC-29. ODP's comments are contained in the following paragraphs.

2. The PRM asks the committee to consider how the classification system can be simplified and to consider what kinds of disciplinary actions can be taken to prevent the misuse of the classification system. [We suggest that the new EO contain a requirement that federal departments and agencies prepare classification and declassification guidelines for their employees. And that the emphasis be on classification guidelines since EO 11652 has well defined declassification procedures. Within CIA, classification guidelines should specify the types of information covered by each of the three security classification categories.] This type of classification guideline is available for the various compartmented systems but is lacking in the collateral area.

2. 3. EO 11652 does not adequately address data that is stored on and processed by automatic data processing equipment (ADPE). The new Executive Order should provide specific guidance which would answer the following questions:

- a. • Should classification and control markings be stored with data processed by ADPE?
- b. • If so, If the answer to the above question is affirmative, [should the requirement include all data that is now stored on ADPE or should it only include data entered after the date of the EO?]

MORI/CDF

- Are classified reports produced on ADPE covered by all the requirements for marking classified material, including paragraph marking?
No.
- If classified data processed by ADPE must have classification and control markings stored with the data, must these markings be updated whenever declassification or downgrading takes place?
20.
- If so, does this requirement include data stored on magnetic tape or other media for archival or backup purposes?
2d.

4. ODP requests that the above questions be included in the material forwarded to the Agency representative on the interagency committee. The answers to these questions will have significant impact upon all ADP activities in the Intelligence Community. The 15 September 1977 deadline may not allow sufficient time to study the problem of data stored on ADPE. If not, we suggest that the interagency committee consider publishing an annex to the new Executive Order that specifically addresses data stored on and processed by ADPE.



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Clifford D. May, Jr.

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